## NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

THE NEBRASKA ACT.

COMMUNICATED FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

At a meeting of Members of Congress who opposed the passage of the bill to organize the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas, held pursuant to previous notice in the city of Washington on the clare the sentiments of the Whig party, said: 20th day of June, 1854, the Hon. Solomon Foot, of Vermont, was called to the Chair, and DANIEL MACE, of Indiana, and REUBEN E. FENTON, of New York, were appointed Secretaries.

A committee, appointed for the purpose, reported an Address to the People of the United States, which, having been discussed and amended, was unanimously adopted and ordered to be published. It is as follows :

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES.

The eighth section of the act for the admission of Missouri into the Union, known as the Missouri compromise law, by which the introduction of slavery into the regions now known as Kansas and Nebraska was forever prohibited, has been repealed. That law, which in 1820 quieted a controversy which menaced the Union, and upon which you have so long reposed, is obliterated from the statute book. We had no reason to expect any such proposition when we assembled here six months ago, nor did you expect it. No State, no citizen of any State had demanded the repeal. It seems a duty we owe to the country to state the grounds upon which we have steadfastly, though ineffectually, opposed this alarming and dangerous act. You need not be told that the slavery question lies at the bottom of it. As it was the slaveholding power that demanded the enactment of the Missouri compromise, so it is the same power that has now demanded its abrogation. African slavery was regarded and denounced as a great evil by the American Colonies, even before the Revolution; and those Colonies which are now slaveholding States were equally earnest in such remonstrances in the Territories, so your committee are not prepared with those which are now free States. Colonial laws, framed to prevent the increase of slavery, were vetoed by the King of Great Britain. This exercise of arbitrary power, to enlarge and perpetuate a system universally regarded as equally wrongful in itself and injurious to the Colonies, was one of the causes of the Revolution. When the war was ended there was an imperious ne-

cessity for the institution of Government in the then unoccupied Territories of the United States. In 1784 Jefferson proposed, and in 1787 the Continental Congress adopted, the ordinance for the government of the Territory lying northwest of the Ohio, by which it was declared that "there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude except for punishment of crime." The great and flourishing States since organized within that Territory, on the basis of that ordinance, are enduring monuments of the wisdom of the statesmen of the Revolution. The foreign slave-trade was regarded as the source of American slavery, which, it was believed, would be dried up when that fountain should be closed. In adopting the Constitution, it was so universally anticipated that the foreign slave trade would be promptly prohibited that all parties acquiesced in a stipulation postponing that measure until 1808. In 1808 the foreign slave trade was prohibited. Thus the source of slavery was understood to be dried up, while the introduction of slavery into the Territories was prohibited. The slavery question, se far as it was a national one, was understood to be finally settled; and at the same time the States had already taken up, and were carrying forward, a system of gradual emancipation.

In 1803 Louisiana was acquired by purchase from France, and included what is now known as the States of Louisiana, Missouri, Arkansas, and Iowa, and the Territories known as Kansas and Nebraska. Slavery existed at the time in New Orleans and at St. Louis, and so this purchase resulted in bringing the slavery question again before Congress.

In 1812 the region immediately surrounding New Orleans applied for admission into the Union under the name of the State of Louisiana, with a constitution tolerating slavery. The new State was admitted, and the free connected with St. Louis demanded admission, under the of 1787, and opposed the admission of Missouri, unless ever cost, and a like annexation of half a dozen of she would incorporate into her constitution an inhibition sion. A controversy arose, which was sectional and statesmen of that day in Congress settled this controversy by compromise. By the terms of this compromise the free States assented to the admission of Missouri with her slaveholding constitution, while the slaveholding States, on their part, yielded the exclusion of slavery in all the residue of the territory which lay north of 36° 30', constituting the present Territories of Kansas and Nebraska. The slaveholding States accepted this compromise as a triumph, and the free States, after a little time, acquiesced, and have ever since left it undisturbed and unquestioned.

Arkansas, a part of the Territory of Louisiana which lay south of 36° 30', in compliance with an implication which was contained in this compromise, was afterward admitted as a slaveholding State, and the free States acquiesced.

In 1819 Florida, a slaveholding province of Spain, was acquired. This province was afterwards admitted as a slaveholding State. The free States again acquiesced-In 1845 Texas, an independent slaveholding State, was annexed, with a provision in the article of annexation for the subdivision of her territory into five States. The free States, although they regarded the annexation, with the probable increase of the number of slave States, with very great disfavor, nevertheless acquiesced again.

New Territories were acquired by the treaty of peace which closed the war with Mexico. The people of California formed a constitution inhibiting slavery, and applied for admission into the Union. Violent opposition was made by the slave States in and out of Congress. threatening the dissolution of the Union if California should be admitted. Proceeding on the ground of these alarms, Congress adopted another compromise, the terms of which were, that ten million of dollars of the people's money should be given to Texas to induce her to relinquish a very doubtful claim upon an inconsiderable part nor SEYMOUR, our Minister to Russia, was received or organized without an inhibition of slavery, and that they it is said, was performed in honor of the Minister, and the people, when forming constitutions, should deter- sal of himself and suite. mine: that the public slave trade in the District of Columbia should be abolished, without affecting the existwas and should be forever regarded as a final adjustment possibly arise out of it.

A new Congress convened in December, 1851. Representatives from the slave States demanded a refiewed pledge of fidelity to this adjustment, and it was granted

the compromises of the Constitution, and believe it to be the intention of the people generally, as we hereby de-clare it to be ours individually, to abide such compromises, and to sustain the laws necessary to carry them out-the provisions for the delivery of fugitive slaves and the act of the last Congress for that purpose included; and that we deprecate all further agitation of questions embraced in the acts of the last Congress known as the compro-nise, and of questions generally connected with the institution of slavery, as UNNECESSARY, USELESS, AND DAN-

A few months subsequently the Democratic National Convention met at Baltimore, and, assuming to speal the sentiments of the Democratic party, set forth in its

"That the Democratic party will resist all attempts at renewing, in Congress or out of it, the agitation of the slavery question, under whatever shape or color the attempt may be made."

Soon afterwards another National Convention assem bled in the same city, and, assuming the right to de-

"We deprecate all further agitation of the question thus settled as dangerous to our peace, and will discountenance all efforts to continue or renew such agitation, whenever, wherever, or however made."

The present Administration was elected on the princiole of adherence to this compromise, and the President referring to it in his inaugural speech, declared that the harmony which had been secured by it should not be disturbed during his term of office. The President, recurring to the same subject, renewed his pledge in his message to Congress at the beginning of the present session in the following language:

"Notwithstanding differences of opinion and sentiment which then existed in relation to details and specific provisions, the acquiescence of distinguished citizens, whose devotion to the Union can never be doubted, has given renewed vigor to our institutions, and restored a ense of repose and security to the public mind throughout the Confederacy. That this repose is to suffer no shock during my official term, if I have the power to avert it, those who placed me here may be assured."

Under these circumstances, the proposition to repeal the Missouri compromise was suddenly and unexpectedly made by the same Committee on Territories which, only ten days before, had affirmed the sanctity of the Missouri compromise, and declared the end of agitation in the following explicit and unmistakeable language:

"Your committee do not feel themselves called upon to enter into a discussion of those controverted questions. They involve the same grave issues which produced the agitation, the sectional strife, and the fearful struggle of As Congress deemed it wise and prudent to refrain from deciding the matters in controversy then, either by affirming or repealing the Mexican laws, or by an act de claratory of the true intent of the Constitution, and the extent of the protection afforded by it to slave property now to recommend a departure from the course pursued upon that memorable occasion, either by affirming or repeating the eighth section of the Missouri act, or by any act declaratory of the meaning of the Constitution respect to the legal points in dispute."

The abrogation has been effected in pursuance of the lemands of the Administration, and by means of its influence on Congress.

In the House of Representatives, that body which is and also the act amendatory thereof, approved February more immediately responsible to the people, the contest was more equal than in the Senate, though it is due to justice and candor that it should be stated that it could the third time and passed. not have been carried in either House without the votes of Representatives from the free States.

The minority resisted the attempt to arrest discussion upon this grave question, through a struggle of longer duration than any other known to Congressional history. An attempt was made to stigmatize that minority as 'factionists:" yet we fearlessly declare that throughout the contest they resorted solely to the powers secured to them by the law and the rules of the House; and the passage of the measure through the House was effected only through a subversion of its rules by the majority, and the exercise of a power unprecedented in the annals of Congressional legislation.

The deed is done. It is done with a clear proclamation by the Administration and by Congress that the principle which it contains extends not only to Kansas and Nebraska, but to all the other Territories now belonging to the United States, and to all which may hereafter be acquired. It has been done unnecessarily and wantonly, because there was no pressure for the organization of Governments in Kansas and Nebraska, neither of which Territories contained one lawful inhabitant who was a citizen of the United States; and because there was not only no danger of disunion apprehended, but even no popular agitation of the question of slavery. By this reckless measure the free States have lost all the guarantees for freedom in the Territories contained in former compromises, while all the States, both slave and free, have lost the guarantees of harmony and union which those compromises afforded.

It seems plain to us that, fatal as the measure is in States acquiesced. Eight years afterward the region these aspects, it is only a cover for broader propagandism of slavery in the future. The object of the Administraname of the State of Missouri, with a constitution toler- tion, as we believe, and of many who represent the slave ating slavery. The free States reverted to the principle States, is to prepare the way for annexing Cuba, at what-States of Mexico, to be admitted also as slave States. of the further introduction of slavery into the State. The These acquisitions are to be made peaceably, if they can slaveholding States insisted upon her unqualified admis- be purchased at the cost of hundreds of millions; if they cannot be made peacefully, then at the cost of war with embittered, and which, we are assured by contempo- Mexico and war with Spain, with England and with raneous history, seriously imperilled the Union. The France, and at the cost of an alliance with Russia scarcely less repugnant. Unmistakeable indications appear, also, of a purpose to annex the eastern part of San Domingo, and so to subjugate the whole island, restoring it to the dominion of slavery. And this is to be followed up by an alliance with Brazil, and the extension of slavery in the valley of the Amazon. It is for you to judge whether, when slavery shall have made these additions to the United States, it will not demand unconditional submission on the part of the free States, and, failing in that demand, attempt a withdrawal of the slave States, region of the continent. From an act so unjust and wrongful in itself, and fraught with consequences so fearful, we appeal to the People. We appeal in no sectional spirit. We appeal equally to the North and to the South, to the free States and to the slaveholding States them-

> It is no time for exaggeration or for passion, and we therefore speak calmly of the past, and warn you, in sober seriousness, of the future. It would not become us, nor is it necessary, to suggest the measures which ought to be adopted in this great exigency. For ourselves, we are ready to do all that shall be in our power to restore the Missouri compromise, and to execute such further measures as you in your wisdom shall command, and as may be necessary for the recovery of the ground lost to freedom, and to prevent the further aggressions of slavery SOLOMON FOOT, Chairman,

REUBEN E. FENTON, Secretaries.

THE AMERICAN MINISTER TO RUSSIA.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE BOSTON TRAVELLER. The Emperor of Russia manifests great anxiety to cultivate friendly relations with the United States. Goverof New Mexico; that New Mexico and Utah should be his arrival at Warsaw with the greatest honors. An opera should be afterwards admitted as slave or free States, as the opera box of Prince Paszkiewitch placed at the dispo-

On his arrival at St. Petersburgh the same disposition was shown towards the legation. Governor SEYMOUR ence of slavery in the District; and that new and rigor- was presented to the Emperor Nicholas. Before the preous provisions for the recaption of fugitive slaves, of dis- sentation took place it was intimated to Mr. Seymour puted constitutionality, should be adopted, and that on that it would be most agreeable to the Court if he appearthese conditions California should be admitted as a free ed, according to established usage, in the court dress State. Repugnant as this compromise was to the people | The Governor, however, took Mr. Marcy's circular on the of the free States, acquiescence was nevertheless practi- subject, "a la lettre," and went to the audience in comcally obtained by means of solemn assurances made on | mon dress. He was treated with civility, no notice apbehalf of the slaveholding States that the compromise parently being taken of the breach of etiquette. After the audience Count Nesselrode is said to have intimated of the slavery question and of all the issues which could that the Emperor Nicholas was "too sensible a man to notice the slight of the American Minister."

The slight must have been felt, nevertheless, and deep ly, since from the day of his reception very little notice is taken of Mr. Seymour; he has not been invited to any by the House of Representatives in the following terms: review or to the Court again; his presence in the capital " Resolved, That we recognise the binding efficacy of seems to be ignored. Also, Governor Seymour, it is said, manifests a strong disposition to leave St. Petersburgh.

> DESTRUCTIVE CONFLAGRATION IN NEWPORT .- On Tuesday afternoon a fire broke out in the Newport Cotton Mill, owned by Thomas O'Shaughnessy, and in less than an hour the entire building, with its contents, were reduced to ashes. By this configgration over one hundred hands were thrown out of employment, and Mr. O'Shaughnessy has met with a loss of nearly \$100,000 in building, manner with a loss of nearly \$100,000 in building, which will be a loss of nearly \$100,000 in building with a loss of near chinery, &c .- Louisville Journal.

## THIRTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1854.

The SENATE did not sit to-day.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. FULLER, from the Committee on Commerce, reorted back Senate bill to authorize the issue of registers to vessels owned by the Accessory Transit Company; and it was read the third time and passed.

The House then proceeded to consider the bill for the relief of Henry Lewis, of Clinton county, Indiana, yesterday reported from the Committee of the Whole, when it was read the third time and passed.

TERRITORIAL BUSINESS.

The House then proceeded to consider such of the Tertorial bills heretofore reported from the Committee of the Whole as should give rise to no debate; when

The bill of the House to increase the salaries of the executive and judiciary officers in Oregon, New Mexico, Washington, Utah, and Minnesota was taken up, and, the endments made in committee having been disposed of-Mr. COBB moved that the bill be laid on the table :

which motion was disagreed to. The bill was then read the third time and passed

Yeas 91, nays 49. The House next considered the bill of the House t amend an act entitled "An act to settle and adjust the expenses of the people of Oregon incurred by defending themselves from attacks and hostilities of Cayuse Indians in the years 1847 and 1848," approved August 21, 1852, the question being on the substitute reported therefor from the Committee of the Whole. The substitute was agreed to, and the bill read the

third time and passed. The next bill considered was the bill of the House to establish the office of surveyor general of New Mexico, to grant donations to actual settlers therein, and for other

The amendments made in Committee of the Whole were

ngreed to.

Mr. HENN, by direction of the Committee on Public Lands, moved an amendment to the bill providing, first for the establishment of a new surveying district, in-cluding the lands in Nebraska and Kansas Territories, and for the survey of those lands and the appointment of a surveyor general; second, for the estab land office in each of the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas, and for the sale of the lands when surveyed; third, for the extension of the provisions of the pre-emption act of 4th September, 1841, over the lands in both the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas. After debate the amendment was agreed to.

The bill was then read the third time and passed. The House then took up the bill of the House to amend the act approved September 27, 1852, to create the office of survey r general of the public lands in Oregon, &c.,

19, 1853, reported from the Committee of the Whole with amendments. The amendments were agreed to, and the bill was read The House then proceeded to consider the bill of the

House to establish the office of surveyor general of Utah, to grant donations to actual settlers therein, and for other purposes, reported from the Committee of the Whole with a recommendation that it do not pass.

Objection being made to the bill, it was laid over. The bill of the House to extend the right of pre-emp-tion over unsurveyed lands in Minnesota, and for other purposes, was then taken up, read the third time, and

BUSINESS ON THE TABLE.

The following bills and resolutions of the Senate were hen taken from the table and referred: A bill for the relief of Wm. Duer.

A resolution for the relief of Rebecca J. Birdsall. The resolution of the Senate giving the consent of Congress to the acceptance by Lieut. M. F. Maury, of the pavy, of a gold medal from his Majesty the King of Swelen, was then taken up and read twice. Mr. ORR hoped the bill would be passed without re

The resolution was then read the third time and passed

MAIL TO CALIFORNIA. The House then proceeded to consider the bill to proide a weekly mail service between the Atlantic States and San Francisco, heretofore reported from the Commit-tee on the Post Office and Post Roads.

Mr. McDOUGALL made a few remarks in support of he bill, when-It was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading ves 68, noes 58.

The question being on its passage, a long debate er sued, in which Messrs. BRECKINRIDGE, LATHAM BARRY, MACE, McDOUGALL, OLDS, and STEPHENS of Georgia, participated; when the further consideration of the bill was postponed until Tuesday week.

Mr. ORR moved that the House adjourn; which mo tion was agreed to: Yeas 77, nays 68.

And the House adjourned.

MONDAY, JUNE 19, 1854.

IN SENATE. The PRESIDENT of the Senate laid before the body communication from the Secretary of the Interior, trans mitting, in compliance with a resolution, copies contract and instructions under which Luther Blake was employed to remove the Indians from Florida; also, co oles of his correspondence, with accounts and vouchers or expenditures as agent for their removal.

Also, from the Secretary of the Navy, transmitting, in ompliance with a resolution, information in relation to the establishment of a naval depot near Beaufort, North Carolina.

Also, from the same, information in relation to th stablishment of a naval depot at Newport, Rhode Island

MEMORIALS AND PETITIONS. The following memorials and petitions were presented

and appropriately referred : By Mr. SEWARD: From S. Saunderson, of Waterport and the organization of a separate Empire in the central New York, proposing a plan for harbor defence by means battering ram. The memorialist gives drawing, with a detailed statement of the powers of his machine, &c., and says that-

" Before the enemy could fire many minutes, at the sam running at the rate of twelve miles per hour, they would either be making tracks or crying out for quarters; for there is not a vessel sailing upon the waters that can stand one rap from such a ram as the above. Suppose the ram should weigh (fily 2,000,000 pounds, (which is a low estimate,) and should be propelled even at the rate of five miles an hour, it would then strike a blow equal to 15,000,000 pounds, which would be enough to sink any vessel in a moment. These bodies ac upon each other; action and re-action are equal, and in oppo aite directions; and the way this ram is built it is capable of striking a tremendous blow without receiving any injury b the sheek; and thirteen of these rams would be capable of gua ding our coast from Maine to Texas against all the flee Europe, without firing a gun or losing a man.'

By Mr. HUNTER: From John Freeman and other citizens of Portsmouth, Virginia, asking to be reimbursed for their sufferings and imprisonment in Dartmoor during the

last war with England.

By Mr. FISH: Resolutions of the Common Council of New York, remonstrating against the repeal or any mateterial change in the plan of the assay office in that city from that now established. By Mr. BELL: From James Selkirk, asking the settle

ment of his claim against the Mexican Government for the seizure and destruction of his vessel by the authori ties of that Republic. By Mr. JONES, of Tennessee: From citizens of Ten essee, asking a repeal of the duties on railroad iron.

By Mr. DODGE, of Iowa: From the Trustees of th Subuque Female College, asking a grant of land for the endowment of that institution. Numerous petitions were presented in favor of cheaocean postage, religious liberty abroad, &c.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

Mr. MASON, from the Committee on Foreign Rela Representatives for the relief of Capt. E. A. F. Lavalette of the United States Navy, reported it without amend ment, and recommended its immediate consideration; an the bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. ALLEN, from the Committee on Agriculture, t which was referred the memorial of Townsend Glover and others for the purchase of Glover's collection of artificial fruits, submitted a report giving it as the opinion of the committee that the possession and display by the United States of the collection of artificial fruits, embodying as t does the most interesting and valuable productions of he various sections of our country, would be of peculiar | President in his veto. advantage to the agriculturists and useful to all classes of our citizens. The report compliments highly the efforts of Mr. Glover, and says "that no better disposition could be made than by appropriating such a portion of the pub lic funds as may be necessary not only for the purchase of the collection exhibited at the Patent Office, but for the completion of the labors of Mr. Glover in his peculiar department," but asks to be discharged from its further

onsideration; which was agreed to.

Mr. SUMNER, from the Committee on Pensions, which was referred House bill for the relief of Jesse I

report on the petition of John Reddin.

Mr. HAMLIN, from the Committee on Commerce, to | which was referred a resolution of the Senate, reports bill creating a collection district in the State

IMPROVEMENT OF THE NAVY.

Mr. MALLORY moved to proceed to the consideration of the bill to improve the naval service of the United States, urging the importance of some prompt and defi-nite action on the subject.

The motion having been agreed to, the bill was con-sidered, and several amendments were made and con-curred in materially changing the bill from that origi-nally reported. nally reported. It was ordered to be engrossed, and would have passed, but Mr. HAMLIN suggested that the question on the passage be taken to-morrow; which was agreed to

The bill reads as follows :

Be it enacted, &c. That the grade of flag officer is hereby established, and that there shall be twenty flag officers, si ty-sight captains, and seventy commanders in the naval service, and the pay of flag officers shall be as follows: On sea service the same as now allowed to the senior captain. All other pay allowed them shall be the same as that of other captains.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted. That no appointment of masters not in the line of promotion shall hereafter be made, and the recognition of passed midshipmen as a distinct class or grade is hereby abolished; and so much of all acts or parts of acts as recognises such distinction or allows to passed midshipmen any different pay than that of midshipmen is hereby pealed, from and after the time when the provisions of the ext section hereof shall be carried into effect. The masters now in the line of promotion, and the passed midshipmen who shall remain in the service, and not be promoted to the rank of lieutenant after the retirement provided by the next section, shall be commissioned as masters according to their present rank; and if there thus remain more than seventy-four such officers, no new masters shall be commissioned until the number shall be reduced below seventy-four, which numor shall hereafter constitute the said grade of masters. The ted States shall prescribe. The number of midshipmen and ecting midshipmen (including all those at the Naval Academy) shall be determined as follows, viz: One shall be apated from each Congressional district of the United Sta apon the recommendation of the Representatives thereof; two from each State upon the recommendation of the Senators thereof respectively; ten to be appointed by the President at large, and those authorized by this act to be selected from the boys of the navy.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That, before any change

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That, before any change of the grades aforesaid shall take effect, the Secretary of the Navy shall cause each captain, commander, lieutenant, medical officer, and purser to report, under such regulations as he may prescribe, the officers of their respective grades who are qualified to perform efficiently all their duties ashore and affont; and from his scrutiny of such reports as may be filed in the Department within six months after notice said officers, the Secretary, with the approval of the Presi-dent, shall retire, or permanently furlough, or drop from the service all officers who, in his judgment, are not so qualified; and of the officers so furloughed or retired, those on the re-tired list only shall be entitled to wear the naval uniform, and shall have their names borne on the Navy Register, but shall have their names borne on the Navy Register, but as out of the line of promotion and of command, and shall not be counted as of the number limited by law of their respective grades. Permanently furloughed officers shall, from the date of their furlough, be out of the navy, and the places of retired and permanently furloughed flag officers and other officers shall be supplied by regular promotion by seniority of rank. The Secretary of the Navy may, upon the application of any officer of the navy, place him upon the registed or permanents. officer of the navy, place him upon the retired or permanent furlough list, if, in his judgment, he deem it consistent with the interests of the service. The Secretary of the Navy, with the approval of the President, shall also retire or drop from the service all masters, passed midshipmen, and midshipmen who, in his judgment, are not qualified to perform efficiently

all their duties.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That officers on the retired list shall receive three-fifths and those on the permanent furlough list shall receive two-fifths of the sea service pay to which they were entitled when retired or furloughed; and that of the pay of the masters authorized to be commissioned by the provisions of this act shall be the pay of "sailing masters" as established by the act to regulate the pay of the navy of the United States, approved March third, eighteen hundred

and thirty five. Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the dut of every officer in command of any vessel of the navy of the United States, upon the termination of his cruize, to make a special report to the Secretary of the Navy upon the general conduct of the petry officers, seamen, ordinary seamen, landsmen, and boys under his command on said cruize, and to designate by name those who are entitled, from their good con-duct, to special notice; and, upon such reports, the Secretary of the Navy may annually select not exceeding five of said boys not over sixteen years of age who may appear to him mos deserving, and send them to the Naval Academy for educa tion as midshipmen. And to each petty officer, seaman, ordi nary seaman, landsman, and boy so reported for good con-duct (provided that the number so reported from each ship shall not exceed one-tenth of the crewthereof) the Secretary shall cause to be issued a certificate of conduct and character in such form as he may prescribe, which certificate, provided he person to whom the same shall be issued shall re-enlist in the navy within three months from the date thereof, shall en title every petty officer to three months' extra pay and an ap propriate medal, to be devised by the Secretary, and ever seaman, ordinary seaman, landsman, and boy to three months

extra pay.

Sec. 6. And be it further enacted. That an increase of ten hundred men shall be made to the marine corps.

Sec. 7. And be it further enacted, That, in addition to the bureaus now attached to the Navy Department, there shall be a bureau to be called the Bureau of Orders and Equipment, to which shall be assigned the duties of equipping the vessels, and of supervising, registering, and detailing the officers and men of the naval service, and such other duties pertaining to the service as the Secretary of the Navy may direct; and the the Secretary of the Navy, and shall have full force and effect as such, and all the duties of said bureau shall be per-

formed under his authority and supervision.

Sec. 8. And be it further enacted, That the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint a judge advocate for the naval service, who shall not be a naval officer, who shall be learned in the w, and who shall be attached to the Bureau of Orders and uipment, and who shall receive for his services three thouand dollars per annum and his travelling expenses as allow ed to officers of the navy. It shall be his duty to prepare, un-der the direction of the Secretary of the Navy, all charges and specifications of charges to be preferred before naval courts martial and courts of inquiry, and to keep accurate records thereof; to prepare specific instructions in each case to acting judges advocate, under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy: to codify and arrange all the laws of Congress, and the Navy; to codify and arrange and the laws of Congress, and the rulings and decisions of the district, circuit, and supreme courts of the United States, touching courts martial and courts of inquiry; and to compile and submit to the Secretary of the Navy general instructions, forms, and principles applicable to them, and the manner of conducting them, and to preserve perfect records of all such courts, and of the cases heard or tried before them: Provided, That nothing herein shall preclude commanders of squadrons on foreign stations from

ordering such courts as are now authorized by law.

Sec. 9. And be it further enacted, That the chief of the bureau established by this act be allowed the same franking privilege as that conferred by law on the chiefs of the other reaus; and the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, may hereafter appoin as chief of any bureau attached to the Navy Department, ex-cepting the Bureaus of Provisions and Clothing, and Con-struction and Repairs, and of Medicine and Surgery, any offier, at his discretion.

MEETING OF CONGRESS Mr. DOUGLAS called up for consideration the bill fixing the time of the annual meeting of Congress on the first Monday in October of each year. Mr. Douglas explained the object he had in view in

offering the bill to the consideration of the Senate.

Mr. HUNTER rather favored the first Monday in No. vember as the most suitable period, as October was one of the months in which members were more engaged than any other in the whole year, and moved to substi tute the first Monday in November in place of October. Mr. CLAYTON advocated the original proposition Mr. Douglas, as best calculated to render the long sessio

shorter and the short session longer. Mr. MASON avowed his preference for the first Monday in November, but expressed his objection to any

change of the periods now fixed by law.

Mr. BAYARD thought the only change that could be effected by the bill would be to extend the short session, but that it would not curtail the long one; and hence would be of no practical tenefit. He argued in favor o an annual salary for members of Congress instead of a per diem, as best calculated to promote short sessions He thought Congress an unfit as well as incompetent body to decide upon the vast number of private claims annually brought before it, and insisted that the true policy would be as well for the Government as claimants to proper tribunal established for the settlement of indi vidual claims.

After a few remarks from Mr. ADAMS-Mr. FOOT suggested that the further consideration o he bill be postponed; which was agreed to.

INDIGENT INSANE RILL. The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the bill making a grant of public lands to the several States of the Union for the benefit of indigent insane persons returned with the objections of the President.

Mr. SEWARD rose and delivered his views in favor of the bill, and in opposition to the objections offered by the Mr. CLAY moved that the further consideration of the ubject be postponed until to-morrow; which was agreed

to, and Mr. C. will occupy the floor. Mr. BENJAMIN asked to be allowed to make a repor from the Committee on Commerce of a bill granting a new register to the Russian brig Amelia, by the name of Abbey Francis," and that it might be o No objection having been made, the bill was read a

third time and passed.
On motion of Mr. HAMLIN, the Senate proceeded t consider the bill for the relief of Urban Stoll. Mr. H. having explained the bill, it was read the thire

time and passed.

The following bills from the House of Representatives were read and referred to appropriate committees:

reped the tract of land in the Territory of Minnesota be-longing to the half-breeds or mixed bloods of the Daco-tah or Sicux nation of Indians, and for other purposes. The bill to provide for the continuation of the military road from Myrtle Creek to Scottsburgh, in Oregon.

The bill to authorise the Secretary of War to settle and adjust the expenses of the Rogue River Indian war. The bill to provide for the construction of a military

road in the Territory of Utah.

The bill to refund to the Territory of Utah the expenses

incurred in suppressing Indian hostilities.

The bill for the payment of the civil officers employed in the Territory of New Mexico, while under military

government. On motion by Mr. SEBASTIAN, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of Executive business, and, after some time spent therein, the Senate adjourned.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. CHURCHWELL, by permission of the House, made personal explanation, growing out of a speech made by Senator Bell in reference to the Nebraska question. This speech has, we presume, been withheld for revision, as it does not appear in the official report.

Mr. CAMPBELL. I ask the consent of the House to

make a personal explanation. There being no objection, Mr. CAMPBELL proceeded. Mr. Speaker, in the course of my five years' service I have never before asked the consent of the House to make any personal explanation. Grievances of a purely personal nature have always seemed to me better settled outside this hall. But, sir, I am induced this morning to change my usual policy, because there is perhaps a pertinency in my doing so just now, the gentleman from Tennessee having brought before the House matters connected with his speech on the Nebraska question.

I shall bring to the notice of the House some remarks ersonal to me which purport to have been made by the nonorable gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. Churchwell)
upon this floor on the subject of the Nebraska bill. It is with great regret that I feel it necessary to advert now to any of the occurrences which took place during that memorable struggle. So far as any personal difficulty which I may have been connected with during that struggle is concerned, I am very happy to say to the House that I had only one, which, to use the stereotyped ex-pression, "has been amicably adjusted, on terms, I beieve, entirely consistent with the honor of both parties.

Laughter.]
But I hold in my hand the speech of the gentleman rom Tennessee who has just taken his seat. I find that I am alluded to in that speech as an "Abolitionist." Now, sir, I listened to that speech with great attention, and I did not hear my name mentioned at all. I will read the extract, and then I will ask the honorable gentleman whether he uttered these remarks upon the floor of the House, or whether he followed the somewhat usual custom in the House, and inserted them in revising the notes for the purpose of perfecting his argument? He

"So it will be seen by this vote that both the Whig Senators from Tennessee (Messrs. Jones and Bell ) voted for the repeal, while four of my colleagues (Messrs. Cullon, ETHE-BIDGE, TAYLOR, and BUGG) in this end of the Capitol are found voting with such Abolitionists as GIDDINGS and CAMP-

BELL and with the Freesoilers against it." Now, Mr. Speaker, I ask the gentleman whether he uttered this language upon the floor of the House or

Mr. CHURCHWELL. My recollection does not serve me whether I used those words in the hall or not; but I am responsible for them.

CAMPBELL. Yes, sir; I have no doubt the gentleman is responsible. I have no question of his responsibility at all. The interrogatory I propounded was this: Did you utter that language on this floor? The gentleman evades the question, and says he is responsible.

Mr. CHURCHWELL. Will the gentleman yield to me? Mr. CAMPBELL. Not unless the gentleman can an-

wer my question. That is the purpose Lam driving at. Mr. CHURCHWELL. Then the gentleman will allow ne to answer?
Mr. CAMPBELL. Certainly.
Mr. CHURCHWELL. My colleague (Mr. Smith) tells ne that he heard me use the language referred to.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Then I have to say, Mr. Speaker. ne gentleman has done me injustice, and thereby, I think, he has done injustice to his colleagues. I do not care

what position the gentleman may give me where his speech will be circulated. I care but little for the name, hether the gentleman calls me an Abolitionist or Freesoiler, Whig or Democrat, in Tennessee. I have always avowed here, sir, on all proper occasions, without fear, I think I may be permitted to say, my principles in relation to the institution of slavery and every other great ques-

tion which came before this House. And I have this to say-and I say it in connexion with nother passage of the gentleman's speech, to which I ered. will call his attention in a moment—that I know a very great effort was made on the eve of the last Presidential election to brand the supporters of Gen. Scott as Abolitionists throughout the South; and, as it was well known that the gentleman's colleague (Mr. Cullom) and myself united in his support, on the eve of that election there was published in this city, in the organ of the Administration, the Union newspaper, a base and infamous forlected, he would use his influence to reneal the slave law. I know that that document, thus published, that forgery, thus issued from this city and that press, over my name, was circulated broadcast throughout the State of Tennessee; and I appeal to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. Zollicoffer) whether such was not the

Mr. ZOLLICOFFER, (in his seat.) That is true. Mr. CAMPBELL. I discovered the fact but a few days before the Presidential election, at my home in Ohio; and I immediately telegraphed to all the leading Whig papers in the South that the paper was a forgery. ther gentlemen, I think that I telegraphed to the gentleman from Tennessee, (Mr. ZOLLICOFFER.)
Mr. ZOLLICOFFER, (in his seat.) That is true.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Having thus created the impression, by this forged document, in the South, that I am an Abolitionist, the gentleman comes here and assumes that I am such, and classifies his colleagues with me in that they might be affected by it in Tennessee. And it is not on my own account, sir, as I said before, that I make this correction; but for the reason that I am unwilling that any friend or foe of mine shall have injustice done him by means of this kind if I can prevent it. Mr. CHURCHWELL. Will the gentleman allow me a

noment? Mr. CAMPBELL. Of course. Mr. CHURCHWELL, If I mistook the gentleman's osition, I presume it is for him to define now what his ossition really is. I do not desire to misrepresent the centleman. If I misunderstood him, I would be glad to know where the misunderstanding was. I judged of the gentleman by his associations on this floor and by his

Mr. CAMPBELL. I wish to correct the gentleman.

am not charging that he has made a wilful misrepresentation; but I am charging that by these statements, and know, among whom were extreme Southern men, announcing that, though they differed with me in opinion nouncing that, though they congratulated me upon the effort.

Henry Clay. I voted for him always when he was a candidate, and used all my energies and power, and not a
little money, to secure a triumph for him. My last vote
upon the Presidential question was given for General

cott, and in the meanwhile I never voted any other than a Whig ticket Mr. CHURCHWELL. Will the gentleman allow me to ask him a question? Did he not vote against the fugi-

tive slave law? Mr. CAMPBELL. Did I not vote against the fugitive slave law? To be sure I did, and so did every Whig from the North upon this floor except three. I might say n relation to the measures of 1850 that a great many Southern men voted against the admission of California. I now come to another part of the gentleman's speech, and to which I wish to invite the attention of the gentleman from Tennessee. In speaking of the speech of his colleague (Mr. Cullon) upon the Nebraska bill, and of those who had congratulated him, he says "such men as Gibpings, of Ohio, did so."

I desire to ask my colleague (Mr. Giddings) whether, at the time the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. Cullon) made his speech upon the Nebraska bill, he did come up

Mr. GIDDINGS. I cannot speak as to the time the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. Cullom) made his speech otherwise than by reports in the newspapers. At the time the gentleman made his speech upon the Nebraska bill I was in Ohio Mr. CAMPBELL. Did you congratulate him by tele-

Mr. GIDDINGS. I did not. I knew nothing of the speech till some time afterwards, and could not have had any communication upon the subject.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Again, he says Gerrit Smith con-

gratulated him. I would ask the honorable gentleman from New York (Mr. Smith) whether he came up on that occasion and congratulated the gentleman from Ten-

SMITH. I did not. Mr. CAMPBELL. It seems, then, that neither of these gentlemen congratulated the gentleman from Tennessee. Now comes the point to which I ask the gentleman's particular attention. He says that "Mr. Campbell, who is of the same stripe with these gentlemen, did congratulate the gentleman from Tennessee," (Mr. Cullon.) I the floor to make the motion to adjourn.

The bill to authorize the President to cause to be sur- ; sat in my seat closely observing and listening to the debate between the two honorable gentlemen from Tennes-see, and I never heard a syllable of the statement which the gentleman has published. I now ask the gentleman from Tennessee whether he uttered those remarks upon the floor of the House, or did he print them subsequ

in his speech merely?
Mr. CHURCHWELL. The gentleman from Ohio is

ndeed jealous of the reputation of my honorable col-

Mr. CAMPBELL. Not at all. He is able to take care Mr. CHURCHWELL. When I made allusion to the fact that my colleague was congratulated by the Aboli-tionists of the North, I had no idea of making any personal allusion or indulging in any personal disrespect to the gentleman. Nor did I know before that the gentle-man considered it disrespectful to be congratulated by such men as the gentleman from Ohio. My object was

to show who seemed to admire most the sent

tered by my colleague.

Mr. CAMPBELL. I have not said that it was. Mr. CHURCHWELL. I referred to these honorable gentlemen congratulating my colleague because they were the most prominent men on that side of the quesion. I believe I said, in the first instance, that men of such stamp as Giddings, of Ohio, congratulated him. I did not say he (Giddings) congratulated him, and I repeat the same now. I alluded to the gentleman from New York, (Mr. Smith,) as next in my mind upon the Abolition side of the question. I referred to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Giddings) first. I now accept the correction, but believed that the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CAMPBELL)

congratulated my colleague, (Mr. Cullon.) It matters not; others of the same stripe did. Mr. CAMPBELL. The point is, did the gentleman from Tennessee say that? Mr. CHURCHWELL. My recollection is that I did.

It is here in the speech. Mr. CAMPBELL. I do not ask any thing more than

the gentleman's recollection. Mr. CHURCHWELL. But one thing more. I ask the gentleman from Ohio whether he considers himself an Abolitionist or not? Did he not say in a speech made by him at the last session of Congress "that if a law were passed repealing the fugitive slave law, Gen. Scott, if elected to the Presidency, would not veto it?"

Mr. CAMPBELL. The gentleman shall not find me

either evading any question that he propounds or going afterwards and inserting in my printed speech any other emarks than those which I actually make use of when thus interrogated.

Mr. CHURCHWELL. Nor will the gentleman find any remarks in my speech for which I will not hold myself

Mr. CAMPBELL. That is another thing. I am not questioning the gentleman's responsibility at all. It was as to a matter of fact that I inquired. Did he utter this sentence on the floor?

First, then, I have never voted the Abolition ticket: and I reply to the gentleman's question that I did say that believed that General Scott was a Whig; that he entertained Whig doctrines in regard to the exercise of the veto power; and that I believed, if he were elected President, and if the Congress of the United States should repeal the fugitive slave law, he would not veto the bill; and I believe so still. If the gentleman desires to know any thing further on the subject of my opinions of the fugitive slave law, I can tell him that I not only voted against that law, but I "spit on platforms" which approved its details, and I am opposed to it now. He will see by this confession

that there is no evasion of the question on my part. But, Mr. Speaker, I propounded the question to the gentleman as to whether he made use of the terms which appear in his printed speech? He says his impression is that he did. Now, I would appeal to the honorable gen-tleman, his colleague, (Mr. Cullon,) who was watching every remark that he made at that time, as will be seen by his response I did myself, whether he (Mr. Church-WELL) did make this remark, and charge in his speech when he delivered it that I had congratulated him

Mr. CULLOM. In relation to the question raised by my honorable friend from Ohio, (Mr. CAMPBELL,) touch-ing the discussion on the Nebraska bill, in which my-colleague from Tennessee (Mr. Churchwell) took part when that question was pending, it will be seen, by reference to the speech of my colleague, that he referred to me, making certain accusations against me, and that the main thread of the speech turned upon the positions which I had taken in my speech on this question, and the course of my honorable colleague in the Senate, (Mr. Bell.) In the course of his speech my honorable colleague said that my speech was received with much 2clat by Northern Abolitionists, and announced that on the conclusion of it I was congratulated by the Abolitionists of the House. I was met, he said, by such Abolitionists as GIDDINGS, of Ohio. I then rose and said to my friend that that was untrue; and that Mr. Giddings never had congratulated me, but was in the State of Ohio when my speech was deliv-

Mr. CHURCHWELL, (interrupting.) When my colleague rose on the occasion he refers to I said—as the House will recollect and as my speech will show—"such men as Gibbings, of Ohio." I repeat the same now. men as Giddings, of Ohio." I repeat the same now.

Mr. CULLOM. He charged me, as I understand it,
with having been congratulated by avowed enemies of our institutions, such as GIDDINGS, of Ohio. I then told him I was not congratulated by him. Then he said that gery over my signature, in which it was alleged that I he meant men of that stamp; Gerrit Smirn and others knew, from private conferences with Gen. Scott, that, if congratulated me. I told him that he was equally unfor-

gratulated me upon the speech from that day to this. Then he said that I was congratulated by men of such stamp, but did not mention the name of my friend, (Mr. CAMPBELL, of Ohio;) and had he done so I should have told him that he was also in that charge incorrect, be-cause he never congratulated me upon this floor in reference to my speech Mr. CHURCHWELL. The honorable gentleman from Ohio, (Mr. Campbell,) who raises this question of vera-city, is very jealous of the reputation of my colleague,

and perhaps thinks him not capable of defending himself. He calls upon men directly interested and makes witnesses of them to state what was said. Now, I have a colleague here who says he heard me in every remark I made; and he says I did make the remarks in my printed speech.
Mr. CULLOM. The remark of my colleague, when I told him that Mr. Giddings did not congratulate me, was that Mr. Gerrir Smith did. I told him he was in fault

in that. Then he said that gentlemen of like political sentiments did, without specifying any name.

Mr. CHURCHWELL. "Of that stamp" were the words Such was the fact, and I repeat it now.

Mr. CULLOM. I told my colleague those gentlemen did not congratulate me, and that Mr. SMITH did not.
Mr. CHURCHWELL. Did not the Abolitionists con-

gratulate you upon the occasion?

Mr. CULLOM. I am glad my colleague has asked the question. I have seen it charged in the Union newspaper of this city that I was congratulated by Mr. Gid-Dings and the Abolitionists, who hung around me like a cloud. I say here, in my place, that if any Abolitionist y and always voting with the Abolitionists, upon this floor congratulated me upon the occasion I do not know him as such to-day, nor did I then. But men Mr. CAMPBELL. I wish to correct the gentleman. I tation; but I am charging that by these statements, and by this particular association, he has done gross injustice to his own colleagues. Now, sir, my antecedents and my principles are known here, and you may call them what you please.

Among them was the distinguished gentleman from Kentucky, (Mr. Preston,) and my worthy friend from Virginia you please.

> sary, do me the justice to say the same thing. Mr. CHURCHWELL. They did not congratulate you upon the sentiments of the speech. Mr. CULLOM. Of course not; but I felt it was the greater compliment. I positively deny that I was congratulated by a single Abolitionist upon the occasion; and the gentleman should learn to be a little more particular in making those sweeping and random charges, in-tended to affect others, without the semblance of truth or fact to sustain them. Being untrue, these charges all fall to the ground.
>
> Mr. OLDS. I rise to a question of order. I submit

> that the adjournment of Congress is now under consider-ation, and that this debate is not applicable to that The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Ohio

asked and obtained leave to make a personal explana-tion. And therefore what he is saying is in order. Mr. CAMPBELL. I do not intend to have my attention diverted from the issue that is made. I assert that, although I paid the closest attention to the honorable gen-tleman during the delivery of his speech, I did not hear him make any allusion to me. His colleague (Mr. Cul-LOM) says he did not hear him. I now ask his other colleague on my right (Mr. TAYLOR) whether he heard him

say any such thing.

Mr. SEWARD. I rise to a question of order. I want to know what is the question before the House?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question before the House is the personal explanation of the gentleman from

Ohio, for which the House have given unanimous consent.

Mr. SEWARD. Well, sir, I object to his proceeding upon the ground that this is not a personal explanation.

Mr. CHURCHWELL. I hope the gentleman will not object to my colleague answering the question which the

gentleman from Ohio has put.

Mr. SEWARD. I do object. This is not the place to settle matters of this kind. I move that the House ad-